



# WATERFORD KAMHLABA

## United World College of Southern Africa

16<sup>th</sup> November 2007

Letter 30/2007

Dear Parents

### IB2 Leavers Ceremony

The IB2 Leavers' Ceremony is scheduled for 5pm this afternoon (Friday 16<sup>th</sup>) in the Michael Stern Assembly Hall. Refreshments are available from 4.30 pm onwards. After the Ceremony, the graduates, their parents and family friends and teaching staff proceed to Esibayeni Lodge for a dinner, followed by a party at the same venue. As for the Form 5 Leavers party last weekend, boarding students only will be released into the care of their parents (or guardians, not family friends or link parents) (by 3am at Esibayeni) or they will be required to return to WK on school transport. They may check out in the usual manner on Saturday morning.

It has become clear that it will be very difficult to control the Bar area at Esibayeni which is open to the public. Accordingly, CMG has decided that Form 4 students should not attend the post-dinner party. Any Form 4 student who has bought a ticket for the post-dinner party may apply for a refund.

Last week's Form 5 Party at House on Fire went very well indeed. Although it was (by my standards) a long evening, when I got home I could be confident that everyone concerned was safe and accounted for. Thank you.

### Music Concerts

Everyone is invited to the **End of Year Concert** at 5pm on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November, in the Amphitheatre (good weather) or Assembly Hall (rainy weather). Judging by the energy and quality of the Form 3 concert last Monday evening, this will be a concert not to be missed.

Parents, Form 4 students and their friends are invited to a Form 4 Concert at 7pm on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November in the Music Department (next to the Amphitheatre). The Form 4 music students will play their compositions and performance pieces as preparation for their performance at the British High Commissioner's Residence on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>. It should be a quiet, intimate evening.

### Dinner at the British High Commissioner's Residence, Pretoria

Many key South African leaders in political and corporate life and civic society attended Waterford Kamhlaba. During apartheid years, Waterford Kamhlaba was seen as a beacon of non-racial education. Since the end of the apartheid regime, the College has evolved into a pan-African institution with a global outlook, whose students and staff share a commitment to understanding and addressing the complex and profound challenges facing Africa and the world.

Unfortunately over the years the College has lost a degree of contact with key players in South Africa. A number of prominent and influential South Africans have agreed to attend a Waterford Kamhlaba dinner hosted by Paul Boeteng, the British High Commissioner in South Africa, on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>. It is at this dinner that the Form 4 students are to perform. I hope the dinner is a great success and the start of the resurgence of support for the school in SA.

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### Afternoon Activities

Because of the departure of the IB2 and Form 5 students, the formal senior afternoon activities come to a close this afternoon. Naturally senior students may still use the sports facilities in the afternoons.

Formal afternoon activities for other students come to a close at the end of next week.

### Governing Council

The Governing Council meets on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November. An excellent attendance is anticipated, including from our overseas Members and from Trustees of the Waterford School Trust. Apart from the usual reports, the Governing Council is scheduled to formally approve the Mission, Vision and Key Objectives of the College (these have been reviewed and re-articulated over the last twelve months), review governance structures, review exeat provisions for boarding students and, together with stakeholder representatives, review the Code of Conduct and sanctions policy.

### South African University Applications

Students applying to South African universities with an IGCSE and/or IB background receive a somewhat patchy response, depending on whether the individual (often departmental or faculty) admissions officers has any knowledge of these programmes. While WK students applying for entry in 2008 to South African universities have received a better response than in recent years, if any student receives a regret letter, WK is willing to send further information on the College and on the respective programmes to the particular admissions officer. Ironically, most of those who have received offers will not be able to afford studying at South African universities because of lack of bursary and scholarship support, and most IB graduates will need to choose alternative offers from American colleges and universities because of the remarkable financial support through Shelby Davis' United World Colleges Scholars program.

Yours sincerely

Laurence Nodder  
Principal